

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : അക്കൗണ്ടന്റേക്കൽ അവർക്ക് അനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഗ്രാന്റിൽ നിന്നും, അധ്യാപകന്മാർക്ക് കൊടുക്കാതെ തിരിയുന്ന തുക നീക്കി, ബാക്കി അനുവദിച്ചാൽ പോരെ?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON : I am coming to that, Sir. To what extent it will go against the authority now wielded by the managements and to what extent it will create additional charges on the department are points to which I shall come.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT : Order, order. The House will now adjourn and meet again 2 o' clock.

The House adjourned for lunch at 1 P. M. and re-assembled at 2 P. M.

NEW MEMBER.

MR. P. S. KUPPUSWAMI AIYAR : Secretary to Government, took the oath and signed the rolls.

DEMAND XIX—EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (Contd).

MR. A. GOPALA MENON : Sir, to resume the arguments I was mentioning before we adjourned for lunch, it is doubtful whether any addition to the present grant will really benefit the teachers concerned. Many honourable members admitted that at least some of the managers are in the habit of not disbursing the full amount of the grant to the teachers. Mention was made by Mr. Narayana Kurup of the promise to restore a part of the amount that has been withheld. If I remember correct, about Rs. 25,000 was saved by withholding half a rupee. Subsequently however Government have spent an additional sum of Rs. 40,000 towards payment of grants. By thus increasing the allotment it has been possible to reduce the number of institutions which are not in receipt of grant in aid to about 102. Even at the current rate, if the department has to give grants to schools which are qualified for it, an additional sum of Rs. 1,25,000 will be required. It is the aim of the department to extend the benefit to as many schools and teachers as possible. In this view, I hope this House will agree with me that half a loaf is better than no bread at all. I can assure the House that every effort will be made to extend the aid to institutions which do not get any aid at all. Consequently any saving in the current allotment will be fully utilised to give aid to more schools.

Certain disabilities have been mentioned under which teachers now suffer. The department is fully aware of the difficulties and have devised various ways and means of removing them. It was said that the teachers are not entitled to any leave of absence. Under the Education Code at least 10 days' leave should be granted to teachers of grant-in-aid schools.

Again, Sir, it has been said that during Onam the poor grant-in-aid school teachers are left to starve. Whatever might have been the situation some years ago, I may say that does not exist now. I mentioned last year that with the hearty co-operation of the Accounts department